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THE DWASTRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WEST SUFFOLK

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1952.

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.



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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District
of Thedwastre in the County of West Suffolk for the
year ending 31st December, 1952.

Public Health Offices,
8, Whiting Street,
Bury St. Edmunds.

October 1953.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Thedwastre.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable consideration
my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being that for the
year ended 31st December, 1952.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical - One part-time Medical Officer of Health

Robert H. Clayton, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.,
D.P.H. (Durham), Cert. Mental Deficiency
and Allied Subjects (London), appointed
1st July, 1938.

This Officer does not engage in private practice but holds in
addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health, Newmarket U.D.C. }
Mildenhall R.D.C. } Appointed 1st July, 1936.
Thingoe R.D.C. }
Cosford R.D.C. Appointed February 1937.

(b) Others - One Sanitary Inspector,

Oswald J. Wyatt, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,
Meat Cert.R.S.I., appointed June 2nd, 1930,
also Building Surveyor.

One Additional Sanitary Inspector

F. M. Flack, M.S.I.A., Meat Cert.R.S.I.
Appointed April 2nd, 1951.

SECTION A.
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

<u>1. GENERAL STATISTICS.</u>	<u>Area.</u>	..	..	..	34,126 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population			(1950) (8,654)	(1951) (8,719)	1952. 8,880
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	..		(2,768)	(2,789)	2,786
Rateable Value	..		(£28,793)	(£29,120)	£30,647
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..		(£119)	(£120)	£122

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<u>Total.</u>			<u>Male.</u>			<u>Female.</u>		
	(1950)	(1951)	1952.	(1950)	(1951)	1952.	(1950)	(1951)	1952.
<u>Live Births.</u>									
Legitimate	(137)	(146)	159	(76)	(76)	80	(61)	(70)	79
Illegitimate	(15)	(7)	6	(11)	(4)	3	(4)	(3)	3
<u>Stillbirths.</u>									
Legitimate	(2)	(4)	2	(1)	(1)	1	(1)	(3)	1
Illegitimate	(Nil)	(1)	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)	Nil	(Nil)	(1)	Nil
<u>Deaths.</u>	(114)	(125)	101	(57)	(67)	57	(57)	(58)	44
<u>Deaths under 1 year.</u>	(5)	(4)	6	(2)	(3)	2	(3)	(1)	4
<u>Birth Rate.</u> (Live Births per 1000 population)									
Theedwastre.	(1950)	(1951)	1952.	(1950)	(1951)	1952.	(1950)	(1951)	1952.
	(17.6)	(17.5)	18.6	(17.6)	(17.5)	18.6	(15.8)	(15.5)	15.3
Comparability Factor (Births)									
Theedwastre									
The Corrected Birth Rate									
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 population.									
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 (Live & Still) births.									
Death Rate per 1000 population.									
Death Rate per 1000 population.									
Comparability Factor (Deaths)									
Corrected Death Rate									
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year.									
All infants per 1000 live births.									
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births.									
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate births.									

6 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred. (2 Males and 4 Females, all legitimate), all occurred (except for one male) under 4 weeks of age and were as follows:-

- Female, 1 hour, Prematurity.
- " 9 hours, Multiple Congenital deformities.
- " 4 days, Bilateral broncho-pneumonia.
- Male, 2 weeks, Multiple congenital deformities.
- Female, 3 weeks, Duodenal Atresia.
- Male, 3 months, Broncho-pneumonia.

The only other death in the nonage was that of a nineteen year old boy (Banti's Disease).

As will be noted from the table on the following page, there were two further deaths before age 45 years (1 fall from roof and 1 Cancer of Colon).

50 deaths (50%) were at age 75 or over.

The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

As in last year's report the deaths have been classified to conform with implementation of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948 - these regulations being set out on pages 371-376 of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond the District.												TOTAL Registrar General's figures.						
	Under 1 year.		1 to 4 years.		5 to 14 years.		15 to 24 years.		25 to 44 years.		45 to 64 years.		65 to 74 years.		75 years & over.				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
0. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
1. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	
2. Malignant neoplasm, Breast.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
3. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
4. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	5	4	
7. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	2	4	7	7	10	
8. Coronary disease, angina.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	4	2	2	-	12	2	
9. Hypertension with heart disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	
0. Other heart disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	9	10	11	14	
1. Other circulatory disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	4	
3. Pneumonia.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	
5. Other diseases of respiratory system.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
6. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
9. Hyperplasia of prostate.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	
1. Congenital malformations.	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	
2. Other defined & ill-defined diseases.	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	1	1	3	5	
4. All other accidents.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Total:	Males.		2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	17	-	8	-	27	-	57
	Females.		-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	10	-	23	-	44

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

The number of births (165) exceeded the number of deaths (101) by 64, but the population rose to 8,880 by 161 which indicated that 97 persons more entered the District than left it.

The Crude Birth Rate of the District 18.6 per 1000 population is higher than that of England and Wales 15.3, and when corrected, to allow for age and sex composition, in comparison to the composition throughout England and Wales, it is 21.4.

The Crude Death Rate of the District 11.4 almost equals that of England and Wales 11.3, but when similarly corrected for age and sex is 8.8.

The substantial difference between the Crude and the Corrected Rates is indicative of the aged condition of the population of our District in comparison to that of England and Wales. There is already concern about this ageing of the population of England and Wales where in 1901 there were more than 5 children under 15 years of age for every person of pensionable age - by 1961 it is estimated the numbers will be equal. Pensionable age, men 65 years, women 60 years, was taken as synonymous with the beginning of old age.

In 1901 there were about $2\frac{1}{4}$ million or 1 in 17 of the population of pensionable age.

by 1931 there were about $4\frac{1}{4}$ million or 1 in 10 of the population of pensionable age.

In 1952 there were about $5\frac{1}{2}$ million or 1 in 9 of the population of pensionable age.

Estimated by 1961 there will be more than 8 million or 1 in 6 of the population of pensionable age.

Estimated by 1971 there will be more than $9\frac{1}{2}$ million or 1 in 5 of the population of pensionable age.

The most significant causes for these alterations are:-

(a) the fall of the birth rate

(b) the fall in the death rate due to the great advances in medicine and the science of Public Health in the last 50 years.

Many authorities believe that the great activity shown by medical science during recent years is all too often hailed as Progress arguing that activity, which often has been devoted to the prolonging of life regardless of consequences cannot be defined as "Progress". That it is not really kind to prolong the lives of so many to the stage of "Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything."

They have said:-

The physician exhibiting penicillin or M. & B. will not allow "The Old Man's Friend", Pneumonia, to give him his quietus, but saves the patient, often for a matter of mere months, to endure a lingering painful end. Nor is the surgeon always free from unkindness to the aged with Cancer. A brilliant operation, which prolongs life for a month or two, or may be a year, part of which is spent in recovering from the operation, part in learning the use of artificial apertures and the remainder in a slow death, is not "Progress" to the individual, neither is it to the family, nor to the State.

Advances in medicine, such as the antibiotic drugs, save many lives, including those of mentally defectives and other groups, as exemplified by diabetics. Diabetes, thirty years ago, was a self-limiting disease. Then diabetics died in about two years: women diabetics did not produce children - now, as diabetics live a long time and the women patients are enabled to produce children, more and more diabetics are produced. Similarly with other conditions the quality of the stock is lowered.

The cost of the National Health Services, at present £430,000,000 per annum to which should be added millions for pensions and artificial limbs, as also add the cost of National Assistance and National Insurance, does not all lead to Progress when already over 11% of the patients are over 65 years of age, when it lowers the quality of the stock and when it will throw not merely an increased responsibility, but probably a real burden, on the middle aged worker and earner of the future who must then support the young, so many more senile and so many deficient or defective.

Thou shalt not kill, but need not strive officiously to keep alive - they say.

They also point to the danger to the State which threatens externally from the application of modern medicine to a primitive community. Primitive people have existed despite a high death rate, with just enough food for the community and a high birth rate. Now with aerial spray of D.D.T. and modern preventive medicine, Malaria can be stamped out, Smallpox, Leprosy and Plague erased, so that the birth rate goes up, the death rate down and the need for food becomes even more urgent. This could lead to the primitive people over-running their neighbours, or to urbanisation with increase in V.D., T.B. and malnutrition.

The primitive races are being put into the environment that has taken 150 years for us to produce - but they cannot, in the same time, be given 150 years experience in moral restraint. Shall the white man "Progress" if he thus advances the coloured races without them having sufficient moral restraint ? they ask.

Fortunately there are still many who believe, with me, that the solution to these big problems is not that people should live for a shorter time, but rather that planning of future needs, (e.g. the relative proportion of the types and sizes of house and bungalow likely to be needed in our own District in the future) with research into the factors producing premature ageing, the establishment of channels to allow suitable contributions of effort by the persons beyond 'pensionable age' and steps for their passing their latter years with suitable activities and interest, will gradually supply the solution.

These are but some of the thoughts which will occur when the two circles on page 8 are studied. 73%, almost three-quarters, of the total number of deaths are attributed to three causes, Diseases of the Heart 42%, Cerebral Haemorrhage 17%, and Cancer 14%, indicating where further development in research might be and is taking place, even though (as the other circle indicates) already if a person in Thedwastre is more than one month old, that person has more than an even chance of reaching the age of 75 years.

"

By the end of 1952 a piped water supply had been received at 9% of houses in the District - this amenity was however restricted in use by the absence of sewerage schemes.

The Water Committee can view with satisfaction the progress of the scheme for, at last , the ground work is soundly laid to allow a dramatic increase in the number of houses which can be supplied.

Comparison of the water and sewerage position in Thedwastre with the Rural Districts of Cosford, Thingoe and Mildenhall can be made from the table (Page 7).

"

A similar comparison with regard to the provision of Council houses can be made with satisfaction by the Council, which has 563 Council houses in the District, of which 228 are post-war and of these 22 were completed in 1952. Per 1000 population this is 63.4 Council houses of which 25.7 Council houses per 1000 population have been completed post-war. It should be emphasised that the amount of Post-war Council house building in each District has been governed by the number of approvals obtained from the Ministry.

"In all but a very few cases, housing need arises from overcrowding, ill-health, lack of separate home or other unsatisfactory conditions of an applicant's present accommodation" states the Third Report of the Housing Management Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee.

It will be noted that the need referred to therein is that of the individual applicant or of his family - this of course may not be the same as the need of the District. To relieve the need of an individual may not be acting to the greater benefit to the community.

It is not sufficient to show concern to attempt to cure unhealthy families by rehousing, if due regard is not paid to the preventive object of ensuring that healthy people are removed from an unhealthy environment.

To balance, then, the individual, against the District, the unhealthy against the healthy, the overcrowded against those with no separate home, the strain of a mother-in-law against that of a stranger and the thousand and one other factors which arise is obviously, to the Housing Committee, attempting to correlate all these factors, a matter of great difficulty. On occasion strong but unenlightened criticism has been made of their selections - my comment is that I can still, as always, assure all applicants that they will get their fair turn so far as it is humanly possible for the Committee, by effort and study, to determine this aright.

Each new Council house now built attracts a standard Government subsidy of £26.14.0 per annum and a rate contribution of £8.18.0 per annum - in other words the economic rent is reduced in all cases by 13/9d. per week.

This of course is a great change from the principle involved when first Council houses were subsidised. Then efforts were being made to abolish slums and overcrowding by assisting those who were unable to afford the full rent of a house - now the standard assistance is given regardless of the income of either the tenant or his family. To do this has suited some parties because it avoids a means test - it has suited others because it cloaks the true cost of the house and also cloaks that the just amount is kept from landlords of private rent controlled houses, who therefore see their property slump to ruin for want of funds for repairs, thus necessitating their replacement by Council houses with rate and exchequer subsidies.

It is not really just to act as if every one who has need of a house has also need of a full subsidy. This action has resulted in some being unable to afford a new Council house rent even with the present subsidy. Surely it is right that the subsidies, which come from the tax on cigarettes and the like, as also from the rates of cottages in the District, should be applied to relieve the point where the shoe pinches. This does not mean the introduction of a means test, that we should know which tenant owns a piano, a radiogram or a television set, but it is a suggestion that it is reasonable to pay a less subsidy towards the rent of a family in which there is an additional earning member. This principle is adopted, without a "means test", by the National Assistance Board who assume a weekly contribution towards household expenses by every additional earning member of the household of:-

Nil if earning less than 25/- per week
2/6d. if earning less than 45/- but over 25/- per week
5/- if earning less than 70/- but over 45/- per week
7/- if earning over 70/- per week.

Similar contributions (not exceeding in total the house subsidies) would remove the complaint of "£20 a week going into the house and still that family's rent is subsidised 13/9d. per week" and also would allow a reduction in the present standard rent for those who have real difficulty to pay it.

The favourable incidence of Infectious Diseases in our District is noted elsewhere in this report.

My very grateful thanks are extended to Alderman C. F. Dakin, Chairman of the Council throughout the year and to all members of the Council.

To Mr. Wilding, your Clerk, and to all my fellow officials I acknowledge with gratitude their assistance not only in the compiling of this report but also throughout the year.

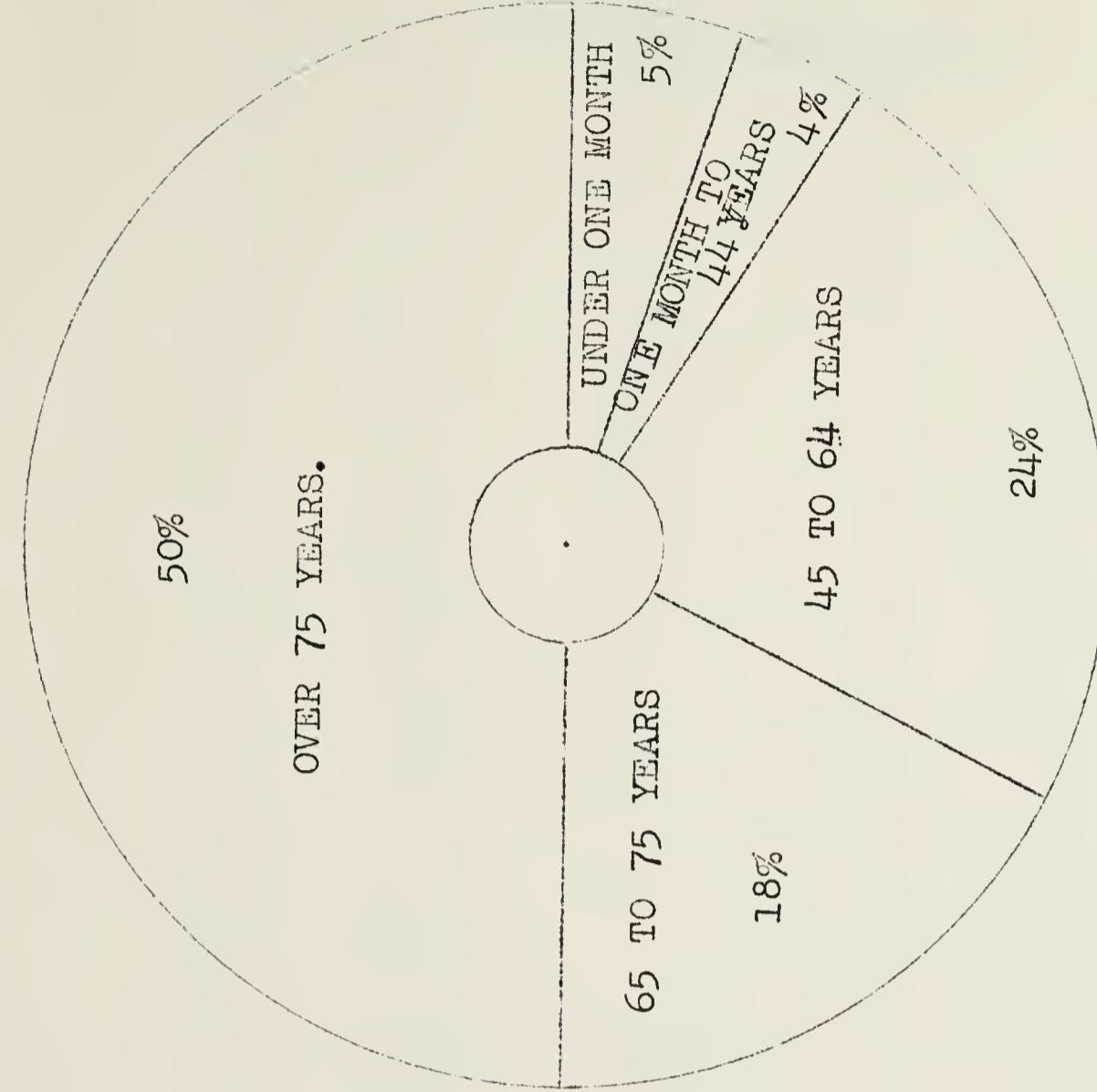
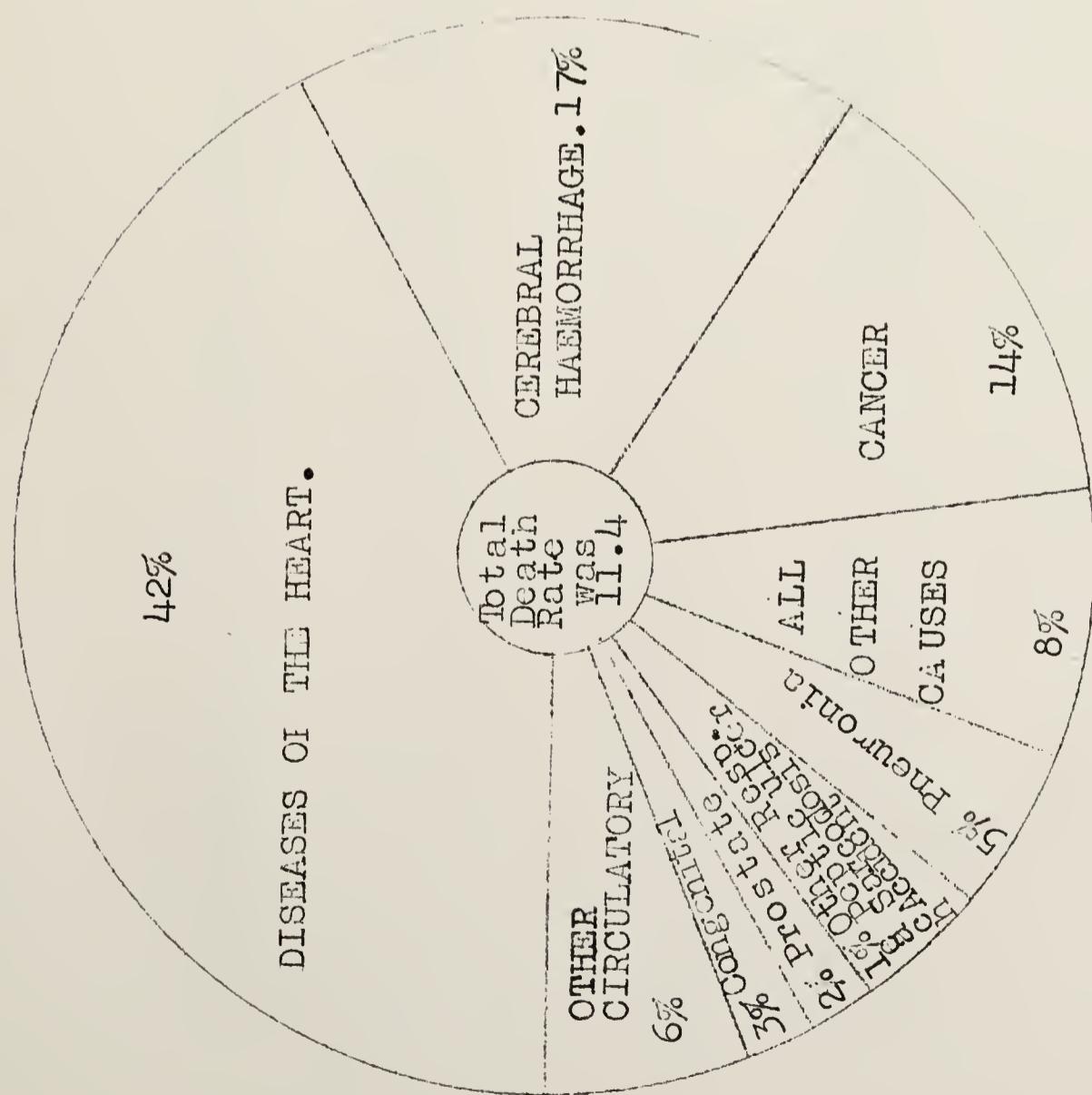
I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

ROBT^{SON} H. CLAYTON.

<u>MILDENHALL.</u>	<u>THINGOE.</u>	<u>COSFORD.</u>
<u>THE DWASTRE.</u>		
Population	8,880	9,443
Number of occupied houses	2,786	3,312
Rateable Value	£30,647	£32,359
Penny Rate Product	£122	£140
Crude Birth Rate	18.6	14.6
Crude Death Rate	11.4	13.1
% of houses with piped water supply.	a. 9% b. (7% into house, c. (2% standpipe	51% (35% (15%)
(a) Total, (b) Into house, (c) From standpipe.		
% houses on Public Sewers	Nil	14% (474)
% Council houses to all houses in District.	20% (563)	15% (492)
Post-War Council Houses/Council houses built 1952.	228/22	250/33
(a) Total Council Houses (b) Post-war " " (c) 1952 built "	per 1000 population. " "	(a) 63.4 (b) 25.7 (c) 2.5
Measles & Whooping Cough / All other notifications 1952.	50/2	180/28
(a) Measles & Whooping Cough (b) Other I.D.'s.	per 1000 population. " "	5.63 0.23
		19.06 2.97
		16.31 5.82
		6.29 2.04

PROPORTIONS OF DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES
TO TOTAL DEATHS 1952.

PROPORTIONS OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS
TO TOTAL DEATHS 1952.



THE TOTAL CRUDE DEATH RATE FROM ALL CAUSES WAS
11.4 PER 1000 POPULATION.

The Birth Rate, Death Rate, and the Registrar's estimate of the resident population of Thedwastre for the years 1919 to 1952 are set out below:-

THEDWASTRE R.D.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Birth Rate.</u>	<u>Crude Death Rate.</u>
1919	8,528	20.5	13.9
1920	8,513	23.5	10.7
1921	8,420	22.2	10.4
1922	8,493	21.8	12.6
1923	8,480	18.8	14.6
1924	8,463	16.0	11.5
1925	8,460	17.0	12.3
1926	8,197	15.1	12.1
1927	8,301	14.8	14.3
1928	8,372	12.3	13.6
1929	8,398	16.0	11.7
1930	8,040	12.9	11.3
1931	8,031	13.7	15.8
1932	8,000	13.9	13.6
1933	7,858	13.0	16.8
1934	7,820	12.7	11.8
1935	7,749	13.7	11.4
1936	7,714	13.9	13.5
1937	7,688	14.4	13.2
1938	7,691	14.8	10.3
1939	7,724	14.1	12.5
1940	8,851	12.3	14.9
1941	9,525	13.0	11.9
1942	9,052	16.8	13.1
1943	8,713	16.5	14.9
1944	8,342	21.1	12.6
1945	8,150	19.4	15.3
1946	8,180	18.1	11.9
1947	8,199	18.3	15.2
1948	8,524	18.9	12.0
1949	8,618	16.8	13.7
1950	8,654	17.6	12.9
1951	8,719	17.5	14.3
1952	8,880	18.6	11.4

Rateable Value.	Penny Rate Product.	No. of inhabited houses.	Registrar General's Estimate population.	Total Deaths.	Deaths under One Year.		Births.		Stillbirths.	
					Legit- imate.	Illegit- imate.	Legit- imate.	Illegit- imate.	Legit- imate.	Illegit- imate.
1936.	£22,590	£98	2,384	7,714	103	7	Nil	99	5	3
1937.	£23,296	£98	2,418	7,688	102	2	Nil	100	5	5
1938.	£23,783	£99	2,447	7,691	79	3	Nil	112	2	5
1939.	£24,751	£103	2,409	7,724	101	7	Nil	101	6	4
1940.	£25,141	£103	2,551	8,851	132	3	Nil	110	4	7
1941.	£25,019	£105	2,543	9,525	113	8	Nil	125	6	6
1942.	£25,003	£104	2,544	9,052	119	4	1	146	6	7
1943.	£26,781	£111	2,539	8,713	130	4	1	133	11	2
1944.	£26,723	£111	2,545	8,342	105	4	2	155	21	3
1945.	£26,777	£111	2,548	6,150	125	8	3	132	26	3
TOTALS FOR DECADE.	-	-	-	-	1,109	50	7	1,213	92	47
ANNUAL AVERAGE DURING DECADE.	£24,986	£104	2,493	8,345	111	5	0.7	121	9	4.7
1936 to 1945.	£24,986	£104	2,493	8,345	97	2	1	125	23	5
1946.	£27,066	£112	2,552	8,180	125	8	3	131	19	4
1947.	£27,416	£114	2,608	8,199	102	3	Nil	150	11	2
1948.	£27,160	£113	2,738	8,524	118	3	Nil	136	9	7
1949.	£27,922	£119	2,778	8,618	114	5	Nil	137	15	2
1950.	£28,793	£119	2,768	8,654	125	4	Nil	146	7	4
1951.	£29,120	£120	2,789	8,719	101	6	Nil	159	6	2
1952.	£30,647	£122	2,786	8,880	-	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION B.
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, under the directorship of Dr. R. M. Fry, provides an excellent bacteriological service and most readily discusses and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem.

Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tennison Road, Cambridge, gives a similar efficient and helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. The West Suffolk County Council through the agency of the Suffolk Branch of the British Red Cross Society provide the Ambulance Service for the District, mainly by ambulances stationed in Bury St. Edmunds.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. These are not the responsibility of the Rural District Council.

(e) HOSPITALS. The hospitals used by Thedwastre residents are indicated by the following information with regard to live births and deaths.

Of the 165 Live Births, 71 (43%) took place at the resident's home in Thedwastre - the remaining 94 were almost all hospital births and the great majority occurred at St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds, or the West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.

57 of the 101 deaths of Thedwastre Residents in 1952 occurred at their own homes in Thedwastre. Of the remaining 44 there were 42 deaths in hospital as under:-

18 West Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
12 St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
6 Walnuttree Hospital, Sudbury.
1 St. Audry's Hospital, Melton.
1 East Suffolk & Ipswich Hospital, Ipswich.
1 St. Clements Hospital, Ipswich.
1 National Hospital, Queen Square, Holborn.
1 Private Patients Nursing Home, Norfolk & Norwich Hospital, Norwich.
1 St. James' Hospital, Battersea.

SECTION C.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. The Annual Report for 1950 stated that much of the ground work necessary to have the benefits of the Proposed Comprehensive Water Scheme had been accomplished.

The Report for 1951 stated that obvious evidence of this had become apparent in that by the end of the year the mains water was being used in 59 houses in 5 of our parishes.

By the end of 1952 water from the new Comprehensive Scheme was being used in 8 parishes, as under, the figures in brackets being houses supplied for the first time during 1952:-

Parish.	In House.	Standpipe.
Elmswell.	58 (48)	{ 9 }
Hunston.	5 { 4 }	{ 5 }
Gedding.	9 { 5 }	{ 1 }
Rattlesden.	24 { 10 }	{ - }
Woolpit.	58 { 28 }	{ 4 }
Badwell Ash.	- -	{ 1 }
Gt. Ashfield.	18 { 18 }	{ 8 }
Stowlangtoft.	4 { 4 }	{ 2 }
	176 (117)	(30)
* Rickinghall	20 -	12
	196 (117)	42 (30)

* The houses in Rickinghall are at present served by a piped water supply obtained from the supply from the Hartismere R.D.C.

238 houses in the District (9%) therefore have a piped water supply, 7% (196) being into the house, and 2% (42) being by standpipe.

The estimated number of persons supplied is therefore 800, being 620 with water into the house and 180 by means of standpipes.

The Proposed Comprehensive Water Scheme is a joint venture between Thingoe R.D.C. and our own Council. Early in the year the 40 miles of trunk main laying had been completed, linking the boreholes of Rushbrooke and Ixworth with the towers at Bradfield St. Clare, Button Haugh and Stowlangtoft and the Risby borehole with the Depden reservoir. The overhead storage reservoirs at Stowlangtoft and Button Haugh were then completed as was the tower at Risby. Thus, by the end of the year all overhead reservoirs and primary mains were tested and available. Good progress was being made with the construction of pumping stations and ground level reservoirs. The reservoir at Rede, which is the main storage unit in the system, was completed in December, and was being tested at the end of the year. The first pumps to be installed at Risby were also being tested in December. 1953 should see the completion of the whole of Stage I development, i.e. reservoirs, trunk mains and pumping stations. In the meantime the temporary supply from Rushbrooke continued to operate satisfactorily, and the demand from bulk consumers rose as the mains in neighbouring authorities became available.

The amount of water supplied from the Comprehensive Scheme to Thedwastre R.D.C. during 1952 was as under:-

January	709,000	gallons
February	19,000	"
March	115,000	"
April	373,000	"
May	300,000	"
June	268,000	"
July	288,000	"
August	329,000	"
September	546,000	"
October	534,000	"
November	398,000	"
December	248,000	"
	<u>4,127,000</u>	"
Average per diem:	11,310	"

Bacteriological and chemical analyses of water drawn from the Ixworth and Rushbrooke bores, which during 1952 were supplying our District, gave the following results:-

Site.	Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses Results.						
	Bact.	Chemical (parts per 100,000)					
		pH	Cl ₂	O ₂	Nitrate.	Nitrite.	Hardness.
Ixworth.	Satis. 7.1	4.15	.0204	-	-	-	31.0
Rushbrooke.	Satis. 7.1	2.3	.0363	0.10	-	-	23.4

In addition to the 12, all satisfactory, samples taken from public piped main supplies 3, satisfactory, samples were taken from public non-main supplies, i.e. bores to Council houses. These analyses when compared with, the fact that of 116, private supplies samples, 38 only were satisfactory and 78 unsatisfactory, indicate the benefit which the reliable piped supply has to offer to the District.

During 1952 it was necessary to cart water to parts of five parishes, they being Badwell Ash, Elmswell, Langham, Norton and Thurston. The reasons for this vary from unsatisfactory bacteriological supply, unsatisfactory chemical supply, shortage of water or no supply at all.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. No practical advance could be shown or has taken place during 1952 in the provision of the contemplated sewage schemes for Woolpit, Rattlesden, Walsham-le-Willows and Elmewell. This is unfortunate as the absence of such schemes precludes the full use of the water supply being provided - the number of fixed baths and conversions to W.C.'s. being negligible.

The Yorkshire Karrrier 750 gallon Cesspool Emptier purchased early in 1952 has been mainly engaged in the emptying of cesspools of the Council houses. As the Comprehensive Water Scheme extends this work will increase and the necessity for sewage works will become more urgent.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. There is no river in the Thedwastre Area. The streams and ditches have been kept with as little nuisance arising as possible by a man employed by the Council.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. Almost without exception the workingclass houses in the District are still provided with pail closets, the clearance of which is the responsibility of the occupier.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. Refuse is collected once every four weeks from every parish in the District. This is accomplished by a driver and mate with a Bedford, Gover, Webb & Liversedge, moveable floor, refuse vehicle, which visits all but a very few isolated houses throughout the District. In the built-up areas the collection is made from the curbside. Control tipping was carried out at the tips at Elmswell, Thurston and Wattisfield. One of the Elmswell tips was filled, the surface levelled by bulldozer and handed back to its owner for cultivation during 1952.

The Rodent Operator makes regular visits and gives special care to the condition of these tips

444 loads of house refuse were removed during the year.

This service has been greatly facilitated by the Council's policy of providing a standard dustbin at an annual rental of 5/- where tenants so require. There are now very few houses which have not been provided with a standard dustbin.

The salvage scheme for paper and iron was continued during the year with the following results:-

Paper, 12 tons, 11 cwts., 1 qr. of value	£80. 18. 9.
Iron, 6 tons, 0 cwts., 2 qrs. "	£27. 2. 6.
	<u>£108. 1. 3.</u>

Paper collected during 1952.

Date when Sold.	Tons.	Cwts.	qrs.	per Cwt. Rate.	£.	s.	d.
29.1.52.	1	12	3	12/-	19.	13.	0.
25.2.52.	1	2	2	12/-	13.	10.	0.
20.3.52.	1	14	3	12/-	20.	17.	0.
14.6.52.	1	6	3	5/-	6.	13.	9.
12.7.52.		19	2	3/-	2.	18.	6.
16.8.52.	1	13	-	3/-	4.	19.	0.
8.9.52.	1	11	-	3/-	4.	14.	6
11.10.52.	1	3	2	3/-	3.	10.	6.
15.11.52.	1	7	2	3/-	4.	2.	6.
Total:	12	11	1	6/5	£80.	18.	9.

Although, therefore, the amount, 12 tons 11 cwts. 1 qr., of paper salvaged during 1952, exceeded the amount of 11 tons 14 cwts 3 qrs. collected in 1951 the value £80. 18. 9d. showed a decrease of £47. 2. 3d. on the 1951 sum realised £128. 1. 0.; the price per hundredweight averaging 6/5d. in 1952 as opposed to 10/lid. in 1951. The lowest price per hundredweight in 1951 was 8/- but in 1952 the lowest price was but 3/- per hundredweight.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The following table records the number of inspections carried out by Mr. Wyatt and Mr. Flack. Much of the detail of this report has necessarily been compiled by Mr. Wyatt, to whom I acknowledge my indebtedness and thank him for his co-operation and assistance throughout yet another year.

Factory Act, 1937. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	4	27	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	22	470	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority * (excluding out-workers' premises.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	26	497	Nil	Nil

* i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 103 (1)), Institutions.
(Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of
Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

No defects were found.

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. 69 inspections relating to the provision of the Shop Act, 1934, were made. From these inspections, which pay regard to ventilation and sanitary accommodation, no action was required in any case. The advent of a piped water supply, to be followed in the future by sewage disposal schemes, will allow considerable improvements to be effected in shops and offices throughout our District.

(v) CAMPING SITES. There are 11 licensed sites within the District on which there are 14 caravans and 3 bus bodies, housing approximately 40 persons. 21 visits were paid to these sites during the year and they were found to be maintained in good condition.

The persons using these caravans are in the main agricultural workers in caravans standing adjacent to farms until the occupants can be found housing accommodation by the farmer concerned, or persons temporarily occupying caravans at or near the site on which they are having a house built. There is not, as in neighbouring authorities, a large American caravan population.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. There were no cases of nuisance from excessive smoke in the Rural District.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS. There are no swimming baths in the District. The swimming baths at Bury St. Edmunds and Stowmarket are available at reasonable distance to many of our inhabitants.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No cases of bed bug infestation was either reported or discovered during 1952. All my reports, which extend from 1938, have shown the same satisfactory absence from the District of bed bugs.

(ix) RODENT CONTROL. The services of Mr. A. C. Denny, the Rodent Operator, were retained during 1952. Regular and systematic survey of all properties within the District has continued, employing so far as practicable, block treatment. All 282 infested properties have received treatment and regular attention was paid to refuse tips to keep them free from infestation. Free treatment was given to houses but a charge of 5/- per hour made for business premises, this charge including the provision of all materials. The following is a summary of the work done:-

Number of Premises Visited	..	524
Number of Premises Infested	..	282
Number of Premises Baited	..	282
Number of Rats' Bodies picked up	..	2,188
Estimated number of Rats destroyed		8,752

4. SCHOOLS. 16 visits were made to inspect washing and sanitary facilities at schools. Much improvement in these facilities will be possible when the Comprehensive Water Scheme and Sewage Disposal Schemes are operative.

5. THE RAG, FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951. There are no premises in the District which require registration or licensing under the above Act. The premises in the District which carry out upholstery work only carry out repair, re-making and reconditioning of articles and are therefore exempt from registration under Section 1(2)(a) of the Act.

6. PUBLIC HOUSES. The advent of a piped water supply will allow improvements to be effected in many of the public houses in the District. The brewery companies have taken advantage of water schemes and sewage schemes in our neighbouring authorities districts and they are likely to welcome an opportunity to improve and remedy many of their premises throughout Thedwastre.

SECTION D.
HOUSING.

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	226
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	316
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	87
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	117
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found (for the first time in 1952) to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	Nil
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	. 67
2. <u>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.</u>	
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	60
3. <u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year.</u>	
(a) <u>Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:-	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(b) <u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c) <u>Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which	
(a) Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(b) Undertakings accepted not to relet for human habitation	Nil
(c) Undertaking cancelled upon completion of work	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	. 1
(d) <u>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders.	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a) (i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	5
(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	6
(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	39
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	3
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	8
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.	Nil

**Classified List of Housing Defects and Nuisances
Abated during the Year.**

New drains tested and passed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Plaster repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Dampness	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Windows repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Fireplaces repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Floors repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Closets repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Other closet defects remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Wash coppers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Stairs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Gutters	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Doors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

The above does not include repairs to Council houses, hutments or requisitioned houses. Council house repairs are effected by direct labour under the Housing Supervisor, Mr. Cushing.

Houses completed in Thedwastre during 1952 were 4 by private enterprise and 22 by the Council (6 Rattlesden, 4 Hinderclay, 4 Drinkstone, 4 Thurston, 4 Beyton). 28 Council houses and 12 private enterprise houses were in course of erection at the end of the year. This increased the number of Council houses in the District to 563, there being 331 Pre-war, 4 War-time Emergency Programme and 228 Post-War.

The allocation to the parishes is indicated in the following table:-

Parish.	HOUSES. Total in Parish.	C O U N C I L H O U S E S				% of Council Houses.
		Total.	Pre-War.	War-time Emergency Programme.	Post- War.	
Ashfield, Great.	105	26	16	2	8	25%
Badwell Ash.	117	23	19	-	4	20%
Beyton.	129	40	20	-	20 (4)	31%
Drinkstone.	130	24	10	2	12 (4)	18%
Elmswell.	313	75	55	-	20	24%
Felsham.	102	22	10	-	12	22%
Gedding.	47	16	10	-	6	34%
Hossett.	90	24	12	-	12	27%
Hinderclay.	66	15	7	-	8 (4)	23%
Hunston.	30	-	-	-	-	-
Langham.	37	-	-	-	-	-
Norton.	221	55	33	-	22	25%
Rattlesden.	248	34	18	-	16 (6)	14%
Rickinghall Inferior.	96	14	2	-	12	15%
Stowlangtoft.	50	6	6	-	-	12%
Thurston.	236	39	17	-	22 (4)	17%
Tostock.	96	20	14	-	6	21%
Walsham-le-Willows.	273	52	38	-	14	19%
Wattisfield.	124	28	18	-	10	23%
Woolpit.	266	50	26	-	24	19%
	2,786	563	331	4	228(22)	20%

Figures in brackets are of houses built in 1952.

There are still 233 "Live" applicants for Council Houses.

SECTION E.
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY. The Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949, have restricted the surveillance of the milk supply by our Authority to milk in distribution from dairies other than producer retail dairies.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. The St. Edmundsbury Co-operative Bacon Factory at Elmswell is the only slaughterhouse regularly in use within the District. During the year 453 visits were made and the 114,447 pigs slaughtered were all inspected. The meat condemned and cause of condemnation is indicated as follows:-

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

Number of pigs killed	114,447
Number of pigs inspected	114,447

All diseases except Tuberculosis.

Whole carcasses condemned	169
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3,362
Percentage affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	3.1%

Tuberculosis Only.

Whole carcasses condemned	97
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4,623
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis	4.1%

Condemnation of Parts.

		Number.	Weight.
Heads	4,623	62,277 lbs.	
Plucks	2,645	17,668 "	
Kidneys	3,362	840 "	
Intestines	2,168		

Causes of Condemnation.

Septicaemia 6	Pneumonic 6	Pleurisy & Dropsy 1
Moribund 57	Pyaemia 9	Swine Erysipelas 4
Fever 33	Pleurotic 4	Urticaria 1
Dropsy 10	Peritonitis	Multiple Abscesses 4
Jaundiced 17	& Pleurisy 10	Hydraemia 3
Crampy 1	Cancer 1	Immature 1
Arthritis & Emaciation 1		

FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED AS BEING UNSOUND OR UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

Blackcurrant Jam 1 tin.	Danish Pork Brawn 2 tins.
Pears 2 tins.	Bacon 34 lbs.
Peaches 1 tin.	One bullock's head. 34 "
Pineapple 3 tins.	Gammon 14 lbs. 2 oz.
Grapes 11 "	Kidneys 4 ozs.
Grapefruit 3 "	Pork Sausage 9 lbs.
Apricots 1 tin.	Jellied Veal 4 lbs. 10 ozs.
Cherries. 2 tins.	Ham 3 lbs. 11 ozs
Red Plums 19 "	Golden Pudding Powder 40 pkts.
Curdy Castle Cheese 45-4 oz.	Nestles Milk 2 tins.
Household salmon 1 tin.	Carnation Milk 1 tin.
Sardines 14 tins.	Machine Skimmed Milk 2 tins.
Luncheon Meat 14 "	Evaporated Milk 7 tins.

(c) NUTRITION. In the Welfare State acute poverty is moribund but often a measure of austerity persists especially among the aged. Fortunately in some cases also there persists the spirit of goodwill and co-operation which existed during the war years - this is exemplified by the actions of Mr. Val S. King of Yearling, West Australia, who, in 1952 sent some 50 food parcels (as in all previous years since 1948) to the elderly inhabitants of Felsham, Gedding and Drinkstone - similar parcels are promised for Christmas 1953.

SECTION F.
PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of Infectious Diseases among the civilian population during the year. These are the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Disease Hospital.

ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING 1952.

				Whooping Cough.		Measles.		Pneumonia.	
Grand Total:				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
52	30	22	Totals:	19	15	9	7	2	-
Age	0 to under	1 year		1	3	1	-	-	-
1	"	3 years		7	1	-	-	-	-
3	"	5 "		4	3	1	1	-	-
5	"	10 "		7	7	6	4	-	-
10	"	15 "		-	-	1	-	-	-
15	"	25 "		-	-	-	2	1	-
25	"	45 "		-	1	-	-	-	-
45	"	65 "		-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over.				-	-	-	-	1	-

T U B E R C U L O S I S.
New Cases and Mortality during 1952.

During 1952 there were 2 new cases as follows:-

2 Non-Pulmonary: Females, 12 & 25 years.

There were no deaths during 1952.

CASES REMAINING ON THE REGISTER.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
End of 1952.	38	10	13	6	9
End of 1951.	47	14	19	6	8
End of 1950.	47	13	20	7	7
End of 1949.	34	9	15	4	6

1952 must be regarded therefore as a very satisfactory year with regard to infectious diseases in Thedwastre - no cases were recorded of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Meningococcal Infection, Poliomyelitis, Acute Encephalitis, Dysentery, Smallpox, Para-typhoid or Typhoid Fever, Food Poisoning or Erysipelas.

